Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 308638 ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 /020 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/B - MR. PACE:LEE APPROVED BY ARA/AND/B - MR. PACE

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R 212328Z DEC 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, BL

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE IN PURCHASING GUN FOR MRS. BANZER

REF: LA PAZ 9992

- 1. WITH COMBINED EFFORTS OF OLIN-WINCHESTER CORPORATION, DEPARTMENT, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ROJAS AND BOLIVIAN EMBASSY, SPECIAL EDITION RIFLE WAS PURCHASED, DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON, APPROVED BY MUNITIONS CONTROL FOR EXPORT AND FORWARDED TO LLOYD AEREO BOLIVIANO. GUN WILL DEPART MIAMI TUESDAY VIA LAB FLIGHT 951, ARRIVING IN LA PAZ AT 1020 ON DECEMBER 22. BOLIVIAN EMBASSY HAS INFORMED MRS. BANZER VIA PRIVATE CHANNEL OF ARRIVAL TIME, AND SHE WILL ARRANGE FOR GUN TO BE PICKED UP AT AIRPORT. PAYMENT BY MRS. BANZER WILL BE ARRANGED THROUGH BOLIVIAN EMBASSY.
- 2. FYI: WHILE IN NEW YORK THIS PAST WEEK, CHARLEY ITURRALDE WAS ENGAGED IN A SIMILAR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MISSION ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT BANZER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE PURCHASED AN EXPENSIVE DIAMOND COLLAR/NECKLACE FOR MRS. BANZER. IT SHOULD BE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS IN THE PALACIO UNCLASSIFIED

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QUEMADO THIS YEAR. KISSINGER

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